

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 199727
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 SCS-03 DHA-02 L-03
H-01 EB-08 COME-00 SCA-01 SSO-00 /048 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:RIMARCUS:LA
APPROVED BY AF/C:LWALKER
AF/W:RMCGUIRE (INFO)
UR/WE:KSMITH (INFO)
OES/OFA/FA:BHALLMAN(INFO)
-----007440 222200Z /61
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, STP, US

SUBJECT: DETENTION TUNA VESSEL CREWMEN

REF: (A) ACCRA 6385; (B) LIBREVILLE 2177

1. DEPT. CONTACTED STAR KIST AND LEARNED THAT TUNA
VESSEL DAY ISLAND NO LONGER UNDER CONTRACT TO STAR KIST,
BUT NOW FISHING FOR VAN CAMP, SAN DIEGO. ACCORDING TO
VAN CAMP OFFICIALS AND VESSEL'S OWNER REPRESENTATIVE,
WHO RECEIVED REPORT FROM NEARBY SHIP, THE MARJORY OF
SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WAS AS FOLLOWS:

HELICOPTER WITH PILOT AND POSSIBLY FISHING CAPTAIN,
ATILLO GJOLLELO, LANDED IN SAO TOME FOR REASONS UNKNOWN.
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HELICOPTER FAILED TO RETURN AND SEVERAL CREWMEN WERE
SENT ASHORE TO INVESTIGATE. WHEN THEY TOO, DID NOT RETURN,
SECOND BOAT WAS SENT, RESULTING IN DETENTION OF ALL BUT
ONE OF ITS CREW. VAN CAMP BELIEVES TOTAL OF EIGHT MEN ARE
NOW BEING DETAINED BY SAO TOME AUTHORITIES. DAY ISLAND
MAY BE IN SAO TOME HARBOR WITH MASTER PETER TRUTANICH
STILL ABOARD.

2. VAN CAMP ASKING ITS OFFICES IN PANAMA, PUERTO RICO, ABIDJAN, AND ACCRA TO ATTEMPT ESTABLISH RADIO CONTACT WITH DAY ISLAND. VAN CAMP DOES NOT HAVE LATEST CREW LIST

AT THIS TIME, BUT WILL FORWARD TO DEPT AS SOON AS IT CAN. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ACCRA MAY DEVELOP ON CREW. GIOLLELO AND TRUTANICH ARE ONLY NAMES WE HAVE THUS FAR.

3. SUGGEST EMBASSY LIBREVILLE MAKE CONTINGENCY PLANS TO VISIT STP AND ESTABLISH COMMUNICATIONS LINK SHOULD NEED FOR CONSULAR ACCESS ARISE.

4. REQUEST YOU ASCERTAIN FROM SAO TOME CHARGE NUMBER AND NAMES OF CREW BEING DETAINED, CHARGES AGAINST THEM, AND STATUS OF DAY ISLAND AND REST OF CREW.

5. DEPT HAS ASSURED ALL CONCERNED THAT WE ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO SECURE RELEASE OF CREW AND HELICOPTER.

6. FOR LISBON: REFTELS TO BE REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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